

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A print service support system for supporting print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies, comprising:

a unit for accepting information for specifying the plurality of agencies;

a unit for generating project information as information for specifying agencies to carry out a project, the project information including at least a part of the information for specifying the plurality of agencies and remarkable machine information for specifying a given remarkable print output machine of print output machines which are available in the project to be carried out;

a selection unit for selecting at least one piece of the information for specifying the agencies, which information is included in the generated project information;

a unit for generating device link profile information for each agency specified by the information selected by the selection unit, the device link profile information including information for simulating color reproducibility of the remarkable print output machine using a print output machine to be used by the agency, and information for specifying the agency; and

a storage unit for storing the generated device link profile information;

wherein the device link profile information is used for delivering data from one of the agencies to another.

2. (Original) The print service support system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a unit for accepting sequence information for defining delivery sequence of data among the agencies specified by information included in the project information;

wherein the device link profile information is generated sequentially in the sequence defined by the sequence information, and stored by the storage unit.

3. (Original) The print service support system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a unit for acquiring information from each of the plurality of agencies, the information including information for specifying color reproducibility of one or more print output machines available by the agency, and information for specifying one of the one or more print output machines as default;

wherein the unit for generating device link profile information generates device link profile information using information for specifying color reproducibility of the print output machine specified as default, of the information for specifying color reproducibility of the one or more print output machines which information is acquired from each agency.

4. (Currently Amended) A print service support method for supporting print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies, comprising the steps of:

generating project information as information for specifying agencies to carry out a project, the project information including at least a part of the information for specifying the plurality of agencies and remarkable machine information for specifying a given remarkable print output machine of print output machines which are available in the project to be carried out;

selecting at least one piece of the information for specifying the agencies, which information is included in the generated project information;

generating device link profile information for each agency specified by the information selected in the selecting step, the device link profile information including information for simulating color reproducibility of the remarkable print output machine using a print output machine to be used by the agency, and information for specifying the agency; and

storing the generated device link profile information;

wherein the steps are executed by a computer ~~system;~~ and system;

the device link profile information is used for delivering data from one of the agencies to ~~another~~ another; and

wherein at least one of the steps is executed using a processor.

5. (Currently Amended) A print service support program executed in a computer-readable storage medium, for realizing a processing to a computer to support print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies, comprising:

generating project information as information for specifying agencies to carry out a project, the project information including at least a part of the information for specifying the plurality of agencies and remarkable machine information for specifying, of print output machines available in the project to be carried out, a given remarkable print output machine;

selecting at least one piece of the information for specifying the agencies, which information is included in the generated project information;

generating device link profile information for each agency specified by the information selected in the selecting step, the device link profile information including information for simulating color reproducibility of the remarkable print output machine using a print output machine to be used by the agency, and information for specifying the agency; and

storing the generated device link profile information in a storage unit;
wherein the device link profile information is used for delivering data from one of the agencies to another.

6. (Original) A print service support system comprising:

a data acceptance server group, a data processing server group and a data delivery server group, each group including at least one server unit; and

a database generated in advance based on profile information about a device to be used by each agency, the database retaining predetermined processing parameters for data to be delivered from an agency which will be a delivery source of the data to an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data;

wherein as to data related to print service accepted from a delivery source by one server unit of the data acceptance server group, one server unit of the data processing server group acquires, from the database, the predetermined processing parameters between an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data and an agency which will perform final output of the data, and processes the data based on the acquired predetermined processing parameters; and

wherein one server unit of the data delivery server group distributes the processed data to the agency which will be a delivery destination of the data.

7. (Original) The print service support system according to Claim 6;

wherein the number of server units belonging to each of the data acceptance server group, the data processing server group and the data delivery server group is determined in accordance with a load on the server units in each of the server groups.

8. (Original) The print service support system according to Claim 6, further comprising:

a data check server group including at least one server unit;

wherein only when one server unit belonging to the data check server group concludes that data accepted by a server unit belonging to the data acceptance server group satisfies a predetermined check condition for an agency set as a delivery destination of the data, one server unit of the data processing server group acquires, from the database, the predetermined processing parameters between an agency which is a delivery source of the data and an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data, and processes the data based on the acquired predetermined processing parameters.

9. (Currently Amended) A print service support method using a data acceptance server group, a data processing server group and a data delivery server group, each group including at least one server unit, and a database generated in advance based on profile information about a device to be used by each agency, the database retaining predetermined processing parameters for data to be delivered from an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data to an agency which will perform final output of the data, the method comprising the steps of:

allowing one server unit of the data processing server group to acquire data related to print service accepted from a delivery source by one server unit of the data acceptance server group;

allowing the server unit acquiring the data to acquire, from the database, the predetermined processing parameters between an agency which is a delivery source of the data and an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data, and processes the data based on the acquired predetermined processing parameters; and

allowing one server unit of the data delivery server group to distribute the processed data to the agency which will be a delivery destination of ~~the data.~~the data, wherein at least one of the steps is executed using a processor.

10. (Original) A print service support system for supporting print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies, comprising:

a data acceptance server group, a preprocessing server group, a data processing server group and a data delivery server group, each group including at least one server unit;

a unit for accepting information for specifying the plurality of agencies;

a unit for generating project information as information for specifying agencies to carry out a project, the project information including at least a part of the information for specifying the plurality of agencies and remarkable machine information for specifying, of print output machines available in the project to be carried out, a given remarkable print output machine; and

a unit for generating predetermined processing parameters as to a print output machine to be used by each agency and the remarkable print output machine, and retaining the predetermined processing parameters in a database;

wherein a server unit belonging to the preprocessing server group judges whether data related to print service accepted from a delivery source by one server unit of the data acceptance server group satisfies a predetermined providing condition or not, and when the server unit concludes that the data does not satisfy the providing condition, one server unit of the data processing server group acquires, from the database, the predetermined processing parameters as to a print output machine to be used by an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data and the remarkable print output machine, and processes the data based on the acquired predetermined processing parameters;

one server unit of the data delivery server group distributes the processed data to the agency which will be a delivery destination of the data; and

wherein when the server unit of the preprocessing server group concludes that the data related to print service and accepted from the delivery source satisfies the providing condition, the data is distributed directly to the agency which will be a delivery destination.

11. (Original) The print service support system according to Claim 10;

wherein the number of server units belonging to each of the data acceptance server group, the preprocessing server group, the data processing server group and the data delivery server group is determined in accordance with a load on the server units in each of the server groups.

12. (Currently Amended) A print service support method for supporting print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies, using a data acceptance server group, a preprocessing server group, a data processing server group and a data delivery server group, each group including at least one server unit, the method comprising:

allowing one of the server groups to accept information for specifying the plurality of agencies;

allowing one of the server groups to generate project information as information for specifying agencies to carry out a project, the project information including at least a part of the information for specifying the plurality of agencies and remarkable machine information for specifying, of print output machines available in the project to be carried out, a given remarkable print output machine;

allowing one of the server groups to generate predetermined processing parameters as to a print output machine to be used by each agency and the remarkable print output machine, and retain the predetermined processing parameters in a database; and

allowing a server unit belonging to the preprocessing server group to judge whether data related to print service accepted from a delivery source by one server unit of the

data acceptance server group satisfies a predetermined providing condition or not;

wherein when the server unit concludes that the data does not satisfy the providing condition, one server unit of the data processing server group acquires, from the database, the predetermined processing parameters as to a print output machine to be used by an agency which will be a delivery destination of the data and the remarkable print output machine, and processes the data based on the acquired predetermined processing parameters;

one server unit of the data delivery server group distributes the processed data to the agency which will be a delivery destination of the ~~data;~~ and data;

when the server unit belonging to the preprocessing server group concludes that the data satisfies the providing condition, the data related to the print service and accepted from the delivery source is distributed directly to the agency which will be a delivery ~~destination.~~ destination; and

wherein at least one of the steps is executed using a processor.